



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: August 6, 2013

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager

Through: William Bo Ferguson, Deputy City Manager

From: Rhonda B. Parker, Director, Parks and Recreation

Subject: Acceptance of grants from the Carolina Panthers Charities and the National Recreation Park Association

Executive Summary

Durham Parks and Recreation (DPR) has received two grant awards recently. The Carolina Panthers Charities has awarded DPR a grant of \$3,094. The grant award is the continuation and expansion of a Challenger Flag Football League in Durham. This league was established in 2010 with funding from the Carolina Panthers Charities. There is no match required for the acceptance of this grant. The Durham Challenger Flag Football program will serve approximately 35 athletes with disabilities. This is the fourth year in a row that DPR has received funding from the Carolina Panthers Charities.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has selected DPR as one of 24 grantees to receive the "Implementing Arthritis Interventions in Local Park and Recreation Agencies" grant. This \$4,000 award will support training of staff and purchase of materials to support the implementation of Arthritis Foundation "Walk With Ease" program at DPR recreation centers.

Recommendation

The Administration recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the 2014 Carolina Panthers Charities Grant by executing any associated grant documents and adopting the "2014 Carolina Panthers Charities Grant Project Ordinance" in the amount of \$3,056; and authorize the City Manager to accept the 2014 National Park and Recreation Association Arthritis Intervention grant by executing any associated grant documents and adopting the "2014 National Park and Recreation Association Arthritis Intervention Grant Project Ordinance" in the amount of \$4,000.

Background

In June of 2013, Durham Parks and Recreation submitted an application to the Carolina Panthers Charities for funding to continue an athletic program for persons with disabilities established in 2010. The funding will be used to continue offering a Challenger Flag Football League in Durham, and to add a Cheerleading program. The Carolina Panthers have played a significant role advocating for the development of flag football programs for persons with disabilities. DPR offers a four (4) team league, with 8-10 players per team. The program takes place at the Old Chapel Hill Road Park. The balance of the 2012 grant funds will be used to provide uniforms, contract officials and fund travel expenditures for the athletes to play in other communities as well as go to a football game.

In the same month DPR was contacted by NRPA regarding our interest in being considered for the "Implementing Arthritis Interventions in Local Park and Recreation Agencies" initiative. This initiative is the result of a national partnership between NRPA and the Arthritis Foundation. DPR currently employs staff certified to lead the Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program and is eager to increase staff training and program opportunities to residents requiring additional support in developing a personal walking regimen for fitness.

Issues/Analysis

These opportunities will enhance DPR's services to residents across our community. The grant funding will cover all expenditures required for the programs to be offered.

Alternatives

The City Council could choose not to adopt the proposed grant project ordinances; DPR would not accept the grants from the Carolina Panthers Charities or the NRPA for the funded programs.

Financial Impact

Neither of these grants require matching funds. There is no known negative financial impact to receiving this grant.

Attachments:

2014 Carolina Panthers Charities Grant Project Ordinance for the
2014 National Park and Recreation Association Arthritis Intervention Grant Project Ordinance
National Recreation and Park Association Grant Agreement